TEENAGE DRIVERS (15-19 years)

Did you know that in 1999. . .

- Teenage drivers represent 9.4% of the licensed drivers in Utah, yet they were involved in approximately one-third (31.7%) of all motor vehicle crashes in Utah.
- ◆ Approximately 1 out of 4 (22.6%) fatal crashes in Utah involved a teenage driver.

Leading Collision Descriptions of Teenage Driver Crashes, Utah 1999

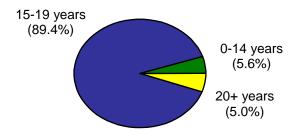
All Teenage Driver Crashes

- 1. Rear End (33.4%)
- 2. Broadside (29.2%)
- 3. Other (18.7%)
- 4. Single Vehicle Fixed Object (6.3%)
- 5. Side Swipe (5.6%)

Fatal Teenage Driver Crashes

- 1. Side Swipe (23.6%)
- 2. Single Vehicle Rollover (19.4%)
- 3. Single Vehicle Fixed Object (16.7%)
- 4. Single Vehicle Other (12.5%)
- 5. Pedestrian/Bicyclist Crash (9.7%)
- Single vehicle rollovers were 9 times more likely to result in at least one fatality than other collision types.
- Nearly two-thirds (62.6%) of all teenage driver crashes were rear-end or broadside collisions.
- Side swipe and single vehicle rollover collisions represented nearly half (43.0%) of the fatal teenage driver crashes.

Age of Crash Occupants in Teenage Driven Vehicles, Utah 1999



 Not surprisingly, most occupants of vehicles driven by teenage drivers that were involved in a crash were between the ages of 15 to 19 years.

Fatalities Associated with Teenage Driven Vehicles, Utah 1999



 Crashes where the teenage driven vehicle contained four or more occupants were twice as likely to be fatal than crashes involving teenage driven vehicles with fewer occupants.

Top 5 Driving Factors that Contributed to Teenage Driver Crashes, Utah 1999

All Teenage Driver Crashes

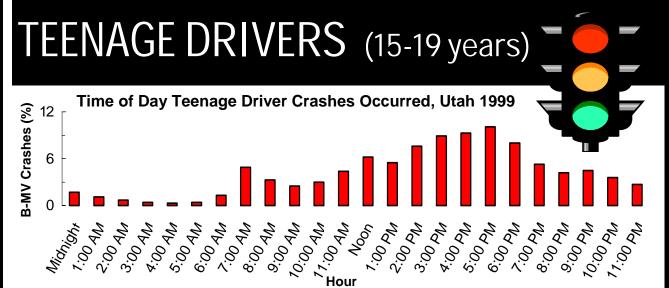
- 1. Improper Lookout (27.6%)
- 2. Failed to Yield the Right of Way (17.1%)
- 3. Following Too Closely (12.4%)
- 4. Speed Too Fast (11.8%)
- 5. Other Improper Driving (8.5%)

Fatal Teenage Driver Crashes

- 1. Speed Too Fast (32.9%)
- 2. Other Improper Driving (16.5%)
- 3. Asleep/Fatigued (13.0%)
- 4. Improper Lookout (8.2%)
- 5. Drove Left of Center (8.2%)



- Speed too fast (32.9%) accounted for nearly one-third of the contributing factors associated with fatal teenage driver crashes.
- Less than 2% of teenage driver crashes had a contributing factor of "had been drinking," "under the influence of drugs," or "DUI."



Teenage driver crashes peaked during after school hours (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm). Other small peaks occurred when these drivers were most likely going to school (7:00 am), and going to lunch (12:00 pm).

Counties with the Highest Percentage of Crashes Involving Teenage Drivers

County	All Crashes	Teenage Drivers	% Involving Teen Drivers	County	All Crashes	Teenage Drivers	% Involving Teen Drivers
Davis	3,899	1,544	39.6%	Uintah	461	163	35.4%
Washington	652	1,737	37.5%	Utah	8,146	2,825	34.7%
Cache	1,961	734	37.4%	Sanpete	395	132	33.4%
Weber	4,156	1,500	36.1%	Statewide	52,802	16,759	31.7%

Graduated Driver Licensing Law

A graduated driver licensing law was enacted to address the concern of teenage driving and crashes. Graduated licensing regulations are in place for new drivers under the age of 18 years. First-time teenage drivers who apply for a drivers license in Utah must complete the following three steps to obtain a license:

Step 1. Obtain an instruction permit, which allows driving with a certified driving instructor, complete a driver education course and pass a written exam.

Step 2. Complete 30 hours of behind-the-wheel driving (at least 10 hours after dark) with a parent, guardian, or licensed over-21-year-old spouse.

Step 3. Complete a driving test (or tests) and obtain a provisional (under 21 years) "D" (passenger vehicle), or "M" (passenger vehicle plus motorcycle) license. The provisional license shows "under 21," has a distinctive color, and allows a lower threshold of points/citations before sanctioning compared to regular licenses.

Night-time Restrictions

Anyone under the age of 17 years may not drive from midnight to 5:00 am except: 1) with an over-21-year old licensed driver; 2) for employment, or going to or from employment; 3) going to or from a religious or a school activity; 4) in a supervised agricultural operation; or 5) in an emergency.

Passenger Restrictions

For the first six months of licensure, teenage drivers can only drive other teens if there is an over-21-year-old driver in the front seat of the vehicle. Teenage drivers can drive themselves or family members without this restriction.

Exceptions: Teenage drivers can drive teenage occupants to or from school, school activities, church activities, or agricultural work if he/she has a signed note from his/her parent or quardian.

Seatbelt Restrictions

All occupants under the age of 19 years must be properly restrained in a motor vehicle. This is a primary law which means a person may be stopped by a law enforcement officer solely for that offense. If found in violation of this law, a person may be issued a citation and subject to a fine of not more than \$45.